

Fueled by adrenaline and filled with talent, these determined young men, led by Coach Frank Zamora, ultimately went on to defeat the St. Pius Golden Lions, boasting a final score of 4-2.

Congratulations to the Johnson High School boys soccer team on an impressive win and another exciting State championship title.

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICERS

Mr. CLYDE. Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor our brave men and women in blue.

Our Nation is blessed with heroic law enforcement officers who pursue a thankless career dedicated to maintaining law and order, keeping our communities safe, and answering the call when criminals strike.

Law enforcement officers are heroes in our communities. They are the heroes that are desperately needed, but they don't often receive the recognition that they deserve.

This week, National Police Week, we honor our local, State, and Federal law enforcement officers. As far as I am concerned, every week should be National Police Week. These men and women always deserve gratitude for their service and sacrifice.

Yet, law enforcement officers nationwide are facing increasingly challenging conditions, forcing many to leave the force and causing others to avoid it altogether, leaving police departments across the country struggling to keep staff and fill vacant positions.

The horrendous conditions that are generating the low morale are skyrocketing crime rates, rising attacks on law enforcement, and growing calls from the left to advance soft-on-crime agendas.

□ 1015

In fact, last year alone, a record breaking 73 police officers were tragically killed in the line of duty. As of this month, 123 have already been shot in 2022, including 19 murdered by criminals.

Unfortunately, in Georgia's Ninth District they know horrific reality all too well. Back in November of last year, my home county, Jackson County, lost both a mother and a heroic law enforcement officer, Deputy Lena Marshall. After responding to a domestic call that escalated to a violent shootout, Deputy Marshall's life was taken while serving to keep Georgians safe.

Make no mistake, this attack—and any attack of criminal violence toward law enforcement—is an assault on justice.

Despite the radical left's persistent efforts to disarm, demonize, and defund the police, policies that weaken law enforcement simply empower criminals, worsening the ongoing crime crisis.

In contrast, I remain dedicated to providing our law enforcement officers with the community support, the resources, and the political backing needed to address surging crime across the country.

Undermining the authority of the heroes that protect and serve is despicable, which is why we continue the fight to ensure that all law enforcement officers are fully equipped in their mission to keep our community safe.

May God bless all the men and women in blue who willingly put their lives on the line for ours, and may we honor all of the fallen officers who made the ultimate sacrifice in the line of duty. May God bless all of the loved ones of current, fallen, and future law enforcement officers who provide tremendous support both on and off duty.

We thank you and we honor you for your selfless service.

NATIONAL POLICE WEEK

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. STANTON). The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Florida (Mrs. DEMINGS) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. DEMINGS. Mr. Speaker, in 1962, President Kennedy proclaimed May 15 as National Peace Officers Memorial Day, and the week of May 15 as National Police Week. Established in 1962 by a joint resolution of this body, National Police Week pays special recognition to law enforcement officers who lost their lives in the line of duty.

Last year, in my home State of Florida, we lost 51 law enforcement officers. I pause to honor them today. I was sworn in as a police officer in 1984. I shall never forget my oath or the indescribable feeling of being a police officer. Police officers do it all: they coach little league baseball, football, basketball, they deliver meals to seniors, mentor teens, and buy teddy bears for abused and neglected children. We also know they run to murders, rapes, robberies, burglaries, and other vicious assaults, including domestic violence calls. They respond, without hesitation, hoping and praying for a peaceful resolution, but never really knowing what the outcome will be.

This year, 617 new names will be added to the memorial wall, fallen officers who lost their lives through violence, crashes, assaults. There were 439 officers that lost their lives to COVID-19 while doing everything they could to protect and serve their communities.

Representing central Florida, I will take a moment, Mr. Speaker, to remember my brother, Orange County Deputy First Class Craig Seijos. Every day Deputy Seijos went to work, "Making a Difference", serving the Orange County Sheriff's Office and the citizens of Orange County, Florida, for 30 years. He is gone but will never be forgotten.

The 62 law enforcement officers added to the memorial wall this year lost their lives through gunfire. As the 36th chief of police of the Orlando Police Department, I would like to tell you about one of them, Officer Kevin Valencia.

On June 11 of 2018, Officer Valencia responded to a domestic violence call

involving a convicted felon holding a woman and four children at gunpoint. While attempting to rescue those children, the gunman shot through the door critically injuring Kevin.

Kevin fought hard but succumbed to his injuries last year. Kevin Valencia, only 29 years of age, was a good police officer, one full of courage, full of pride, and commitment. Officer Valencia is gone, but he will never be forgotten.

Mr. Speaker, as we honor these men and women for their service, we here in this body—the same one in 1962 who passed the joint resolution—have an obligation to continue to support legislation that will help keep our law enforcement officers safe and will give them the tools needed to perform the tough job, the dangerous job that they do every day.

Protectors, guardians—when they need to be—warriors—when they need to be—public servants, America law enforcement officers, my brothers and sisters in blue, many have given much. These officers whose names appear on the memorial wall have given all. Let's honor their memories, their service, their sacrifice.

HONORING NASCC EXCELLENCE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. CLOUD) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize and congratulate the men and women of Naval Air Station Corpus Christi for taking first place in the U.S. Navy's Installation Excellence Award.

Awarded by the Commander of Naval Installations Command, this achievement rightfully recognizes Naval Air Station Corpus Christi for superior performance, installation management, program excellence, and community outreach.

This honor is a true testament to the hard work and devotion to mission success that is put forth daily by so many.

Residing along the Corpus Christi Bay, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi has been home to naval pilot training since 1941. Along with producing the finest naval aviators in the world, Naval Air Station Corpus Christi serves as a major hub of naval activity in south Texas.

From the newest graduates arriving from recruit training to the installation's commander, Christopher Jason, I have witnessed professionalism and dedication of the individuals who have earned this distinction.

I thank everyone stationed at NAS Corpus Christi for their service and extend my congratulations to NAS Corpus Christi on this achievement.

I wish Captain Jason the best as he represents the U.S. Navy in competition for the 2022 Commander in Chiefs Award for Installation Excellence, and I look forward to the NAS Corpus Christi's continued excellence and achievement, and couldn't be prouder

to represent this installation, service-members, and community.

HONORING ROCKPORT MAYOR PATRICK "PAT" RIOS

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, today I rise to honor a pillar of our community, Mayor Patrick "Pat" Rios of Rockport, Texas. Pat has led the city of Rockport as the mayor for the past 4 years and his term ends this month.

This position was the culmination of his decade-long elected public service, where he previously served as Ward 3 council member and mayor pro tem from 2012 to 2018. Before public service, Pat was an entrepreneur and small business owner. He eventually entered the healthcare industry and rose to senior levels before his retirement in 2010.

Anyone who has met him knows Pat is a fierce advocate for the city of Rockport. This was evident from the moment he took the helm in his role as mayor; a moment that was characterized by Hurricane Harvey's havoc and devastation in 2017.

The hurricane made landfall along the Charm of the Texas Coast. Under Pat's leadership, the city that was first hit aggressively moved forward with the "first to recover" mantra that speaks to the heart of the resolute Texas spirit.

Due to Pat, the city has made remarkable progress in rebuilding and is poised to be stronger than ever. Pat is a shining example of community leadership and stewardship. I have greatly enjoyed working with him, especially in this recovery effort during his tenure as mayor, and I wish him and his wife, Patricia Ann, and his entire family the best during his well-deserved retirement from public service.

HONORING WORLD WAR II AND KOREAN WAR VETERAN LUIS A. VALLS

Mr. CLOUD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the life of Luis Angel Valls of Corpus Christi, Texas. Born in 1928 in Sinton, Texas, and raised in Alice, Luis answered the Nation's call by enlisting in the United States Navy during World War II.

At the age of 17, he was sent to service in the Pacific Theater. With the onset of the Korean war, Luis' overwhelming sense of duty and selfless service saw him answering the Nation's call once more. He served in the Navy until he was honorably discharged in 1954.

After his Navy service, Luis relocated to Corpus Christi, Texas, and joined the Corpus Christi Fire Department where he served for 29 years, being one of the first Mexican Americans to join CCFD.

During his time with the fire department, he was recognized twice for valor and has the distinction of making the first ambulance call for the CCFD's newly formed EMT ambulance program.

Luis married the love of his life, Olga Pena, in 1958 in Alice. Together they had four sons and were happily married for 64 years.

Luis was a proud member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the Disabled American Veterans, and the Pan-American Golf Association. He was a loyal parishioner of Our Lady of Perpetual Help Catholic Church in Corpus Christi for over 60 years.

Luis was an avid golfer, deer hunter, and voracious reader of history, including military, Western and Texas history.

As a proud father and grandfather, his greatest joy during retirement was spending time with his family. Our Nation is indebted to Mr. Valls. I ask that you please join me in honoring and remembering his magnificent life.

HONORING THE LIFE OF MIGUEL GONZALEZ

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. CÁRDENAS) for 5 minutes.

Mr. CÁRDENAS. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the life of Miguel Gonzalez, a charismatic and innovative entrepreneur from the San Fernando Valley who was recently taken from us in a fatal car accident.

Miguel was one of the founders and owners of Vallarta Supermarkets, a chain of family-owned grocery stores committed to offering the best-quality products from Mexico and Latin America.

Originally from Jalostotitlan, Jalisco, Mexico, he immigrated to the San Fernando Valley with his family and graduated from Van Nuys High School.

As a young man, Miguel had an eye for buildings and design. He pursued his passion in architecture after receiving an associate's degree in arts. This led him to begin a career at Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, California, as a quality assurance technician who worked on parts for the Space Shuttle program.

In 1985, his brother, Enrique, Sr., started the family business when he opened Carniceria Vallarta in a 1,000-square-foot market in Van Nuys, California. Enrique, Sr. soon expanded the business to a second location and got his four brothers to join, including Miguel. They focused on selling traditional cuts of popular Mexican meats. The brothers would put in 18-hour days, 7 days a week to make sure the business succeeded.

Miguel brought his passion for design and helped develop the significant architecture and interior design of the Vallarta stores. He created the trademark Vallarta aesthetic with the focus of modern and nostalgic references to his hometown in Jalisco.

Anyone in our community can recognize the iconic design when they are driving around the neighborhood. When they go in they forget they are in California, and they are taken directly back to Mexico. That is what Miguel did, he made a simple shopping experience feel like home.

He was always pushing the envelope to make sure every store completed its mission to serve our community with respect and pride, while providing authentic, traditional, fresh products that bring families together over a meal.

One of his last projects was Sayulita Tap Room established in October of 2020 in Indio, California. This project epitomized his vision of spending quality time with loved ones, excellent food and drinks, and live music.

When he pitched this idea to his family, they all had doubts and concerns. They asked, "A bar at a grocery store?" Miguel said, "If Whole Foods can do it, so can I." This project represented Miguel's vision and entrepreneurial spirit to make his dreams a reality.

Miguel wasn't just a shining example of the American Dream, he inspired countless others to "work hard and play harder," which was his motto. He left a legacy of 52 stores throughout southern and central California, all which provide jobs to more than 8,000 hardworking people.

Miguel had a deep passion and love for the employees and families of Vallarta Supermarkets. He was heavily involved in the Gonzalez Family Foundation, which offers scholarships to its employees and their children.

The foundation has given thousands of dollars to help their families pursue higher education.

□ 1030

On top of that, he was a supporter and donor to the St. Jude Children's Center. For this and so much more, I know that his legacy will continue to inspire Latinos and countless others in our community and across the country. I know that his designs will be seen and appreciated by more and more people every day.

Miguel leaves behind his high school sweetheart and wife, Maria Teresa; his two sons, Christian and Luis Angel; his granddaughter, Aria Soleil; his mother, Eva; his father, Felix; his brothers; sisters; cousins; aunts; uncles; and many of us who are his dear friends.

Many of Miguel's family made the trip to Washington, D.C., to watch him be honored in this body.

I have had the honor of knowing Miguel and his family, admiring his wonderful work and his work ethic.

Miguel came to the United States not speaking English. Miguel's first language was Spanish. So with that, I honor him and all those who come to this country and give so much to the United States of America.

(English translation of the statement made in Spanish is as follows:)

To Miguel's family, thank you very much for giving so much of Miguel to the community.

I would also like to thank Miguel for being such a good man, husband, father, son, friend.

It is very important for everyone to know that, in the United States of America, we are all equal.